



YVONNE HARVEY

OBJECT

Submission ID: e31

Organisation: N/A	Key issues: N/A
Location: N/A	
Attachment: N/A	

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I am writing to object to the Plasrefine development outside Moss Vale. I have only recently heard about it.

I ticked "member of the community" when making my submission. I am not a local but live in Sydney and am a member of a broader community that will also be impacted by this development - namely visitors and tourists to the region.

I am 82 years of age and have enjoyed visiting the beautiful Southern Highlands for many decades. During my lifetime I have witnessed changes to many regional areas as small country towns have grown and visitors to these areas increased. For the most part alterations in the Southern Highlands have not spoiled its appeal as an area of peace, charm and English-style countryside - something that is greatly valued by both locals and visitors. It has been a popular tourist destination for over 150 years. The Plasrefine development will irrevocably change this.

I'm not an expert in the many of the issues that have been raised opposing this development but I am able recognise that the enormous size and scope of what is being proposed is not in keeping with the place. It comprises rolling green hills, farmland, vineyards and quiet residences. So too, the large increase in the number of trucks that will be on the local roads. An increase in vehicles and noise is detrimental to a place valued for its quiet beauty and as an escape from the city.

I have heard many locals report they will move should the development go ahead. Sadly not everyone will have this option to sure up their health. The greatest care must be exercised when deciding where to locate industry. I urge the IPC to take the opportunity here to learn from the mistakes of previous generations and the serious consequences of placing industry too close to residential areas. I can recall in my lifetime the Botany Industrial Park and the Newcastle steelworks as two such examples. No doubt there are many others.

Recycling the vast quantity of plastics on our planet is critical but we must be so very mindful to place industry in suitable areas and not in pockets of land like the Southern Highlands - an area cherished for its scenic rural charm. I have seen many regions sacrificed for industry and development. The Southern Highlands is unique in character and so close to Sydney for all to enjoy - if its landscape and appeal is not preserved it will not be around for future generations to experience.